

Harpeth River Watershed Stakeholder Meeting

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Franklin City Hall Board Room

Attendees

In person:

TDEC:	Regan McGahen, Jennifer Dodd, David Duhl, Stephanie Durman, Katherine Barnes
EPA:	Amy Feingold, Craig Hesterlee
Harpeth Conservancy (HC):	Dorie Bolze, Jim Redwine, Dan Fitzgerald
Franklin:	Mark Hilty, Michelle Hatcher, Shauna Billingsley, JW Luna
WADC:	Nick Tatum, Saya Qualls (Hazen & Sawyer)
Metro Nashville:	Mary Bruce
TSRA:	Laurie Bruno
Berry's Chapel (BC/CC):	Stacy Crouch, Bruce Meyer (also Cartwright Creek)
AquAeTer:	Mike Corn
Williamson Co:	Michael Scott
USGS:	Shannon Williams
Ensafe/TDOT	Michael Cramer

On conference line:

EPA:	Tim Wool, John Davis, Elizabeth Belk, Amanda Howell, Glenn Fernandez, John Davis
Bill Hall & Assoc:	Bill Hall

2017 Data Collection

TDEC (Jenny Dodd) Welcome and initiated discussion on 2017 data status

EPA (Tim Wool) – still working on getting a SharePoint site set up so that everyone can upload & see data

Franklin (Michelle Hatcher) has data ready, but it is too large to e-mail, Tim said that it can be put on a CD and mailed or they can put it on Craig's thumb drive at the close of the meeting (data was put on thumb drive)

HC (Dan Fitzgerald) – they now have algae data ready to be submitted will e-mail it along with the report

Metro (Mary Bruce) – their data has already been submitted to EPA

USGS (Shannon Williams) – their data is available for download from the web, he will verify that it can all be viewed by the public and Tim will do a fresh download (he hasn't downloaded data from past 12 mos)

WADC (Nick Tatum) – sent their data in December and re-sent during meeting to be sure that Tim has it

Berry's Chapel (Bruce Meyer) – MOR data given to TDEC is all they have, no ambient monitoring

2018 Sampling/Model Discussion

EPA (Tim Wool) inquired as to the motivation behind the memo that Mike Corn submitted to the group **AquaAeTer** (Mike Corn) spoke to his memo, that he looked at the last time data was gathered and believed that a dye time of travel needed to be done and there was need for a dynamic model because of Franklin's discharge

EPA (Tim Wool) additional data is always welcome but not necessarily needed for the model. Time of travel data would provide little help to this model because time of travel represents how the river behaves at that location in 3 days, but this is a continuous simulation model over a ten year period of time. The model is dynamic and water quantity is being handled by the model. Error in the observed versus predicted flow is only around 4%. At this time, algae is the biggest unknown.

AquaAeTer (Mike Corn) Inquired as to how EPA is taking into account kinetic rates for CBOD, organic-N and NH₃ decay

EPA (Tim Wool) Using standard assumptions that can be revised once the long term BOD data is reviewed

HC (Dorie Bolze) asked how much BOD_U was collected. HC did not do it last sampling season and is not planning to do it in the next season. Franklin collected at 4 sites and WADC collected at their one site.

HC (Dan Fitzgerald) Question: Do we need to have 90 day BOD_U? Memo stated that it was needed and most people just did 30 day.

AquaTer (Mike Corn) commented that a 90 day BOD_U was needed

EPA (Craig Hersterlee) 90 day BOD_U is not necessary. Not being certain of the end point complicates things with the model. Flow calibration is really good now, and we probably do not need more data on that.

EPA (Tim Wool) Model is currently set up to handle dissolved oxygen, pH, algal biomass and periphyton, we do not need diel changes of chl-a. Thirty days is twice as long as the longest time of travel in the Harpeth River.

Franklin (Michele Hatcher) – Franklin effluent data includes BOD₁₂₀ in their older data, but collected only once per year

TDEC (Jenny Dodd) – asked if EPA could make a final call on BOD ultimate data and relative importance of attached vs. floating algae

EPA (Tim Wool) has not reviewed the data that has been submitted yet, will look at everything and evaluate data gaps

HC (Dorie Bolze) HC will not be doing the same sampling that they did previously and will be focusing on algae only this season due to limited funding. Asked if EPA would want algal speciation data.

EPA (Tim Wool) They would want same 4 sites for algae. Not sure if it is going to be useful, but maybe spring, mid-season and end of season just to evaluate dominant species.

WADC (Nick Tatum) WADC will continue to sample at site #9 and will be doing BOD₅ (no longer doing BOD₃₀)

Metro (Mary Bruce) – They will continue at site 4A and will add site 4 for this coming season, bi-weekly, same parameters as last season, one time benthic sampling (which is not used for the model) Noted that all of their BOD was coming in below detection limit (2mg/L)

Franklin (Michelle Hatcher) will continue with #2, 3 & 7 biweekly, same as last season, no longer doing BOD₃₀

Will also submit additional sampling data from upstream and downstream of discharge.

EPA (Craig Hersterlee) will mine EPA's data to see if he can find Franklin MOR data

EPA (Tim Wool) Noted that it doesn't matter what days the samples are done, but would like data for entire growing season

TDOT (Mike Cramer) Noted that TDOT does have some stormwater data for nutrients that he can provide

General Discussion/Work Plan

TDEC (Jenny Dodd) Stated that there had been a request for a work plan moving forward. TDEC will be drafting a TMDL work plan to be posted on the website that has been developed for this specific TMDL. TDEC will also be exploring putting together a third party advisory panel to review the TMDL. Looking at academia and other states as neutral advisory panel. This will take time to put together and will be down the road a bit.

WADC (Saya Qualls) recommended academia and possibly the regulated community for members of the advisory panel

EPA (Craig Hesterlee) noted that it would not be advised to look to any for-profit parties for the panel

HC (Jim Redwine) stated that he knew of a Stones River TMDL work plan that could be looked at but did not have a copy of it and did not know where it could be acquired

TDEC (Jenny Dodd) Not aware of any TMDL work plans

TDEC (David Duhl) also not aware of any TMDL work plans and also noted that the Harpeth work plan will be a living document, meaning that it is likely to change over time

Next Stakeholder Meetings

TSRA (Laurie Bruno) asked why meetings were not being held at TDEC

TDEC (Jenny Dodd) explained that there are challenges with parking at the Tennessee Tower

HC (David Lemke) offered the Waller offices for next large group meeting, including parking

TDEC Tentatively planning for a call in about a month with those who are sampling to discuss algae data and BOD sampling

Tentatively planning for the next stakeholder meeting to be in late June or early July (halfway through sampling season)